

Investing in Probation Services Reduces Crime

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Orange County Probation Department
2004 - 2005
Report

Who is on Probation in Orange County?

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14,000 Adult Cases:

88% Felons

12% Misdemeanants



6,500 Juvenile Cases:

43% Felons

57% Misdemeanants

**52% Felony Drug
Offenses**

Methamphetamines, Heroin,
Cocaine



**19% Felony
Property Crimes**

Auto Burglary, Grand Theft



**15% Felony Crimes
Against Persons**

Sex Offenses, Domestic
Violence, Stalking



**15% Felony Crimes
Against Persons**

Assault with a Deadly
Weapon, Witness
Intimidation

**14% Felony
Property Crimes**

Residential Burglary,
Embezzlement



**7% Felony Drug
Offenses**

Narcotics Sales

Probationers are Classified as High, Medium, or Low Risk to the Community *

**Classification determines level of
supervision needed.**

**Probation Officers are deployed
where they can be most effective.**

* Classification based on National Institute of Corrections validated
system for offender management

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Past Probationers Who Succeeded

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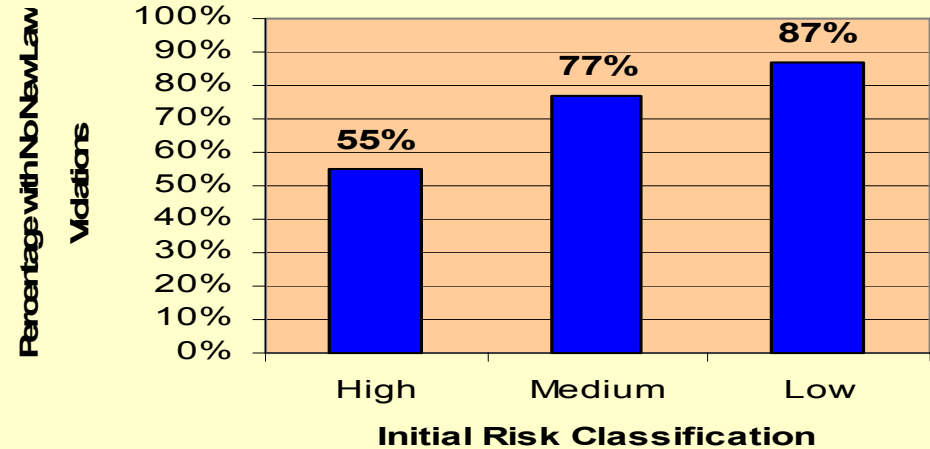
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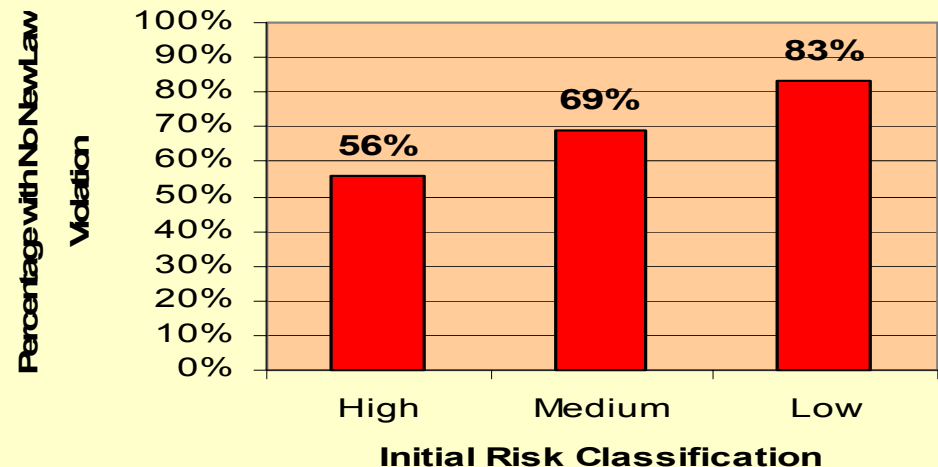
Percentage of
Probationers
with no new law
violations based
on a 15-year
Probation
Department
study





No New Law Violations - Juveniles



No New Law Violations - Adults

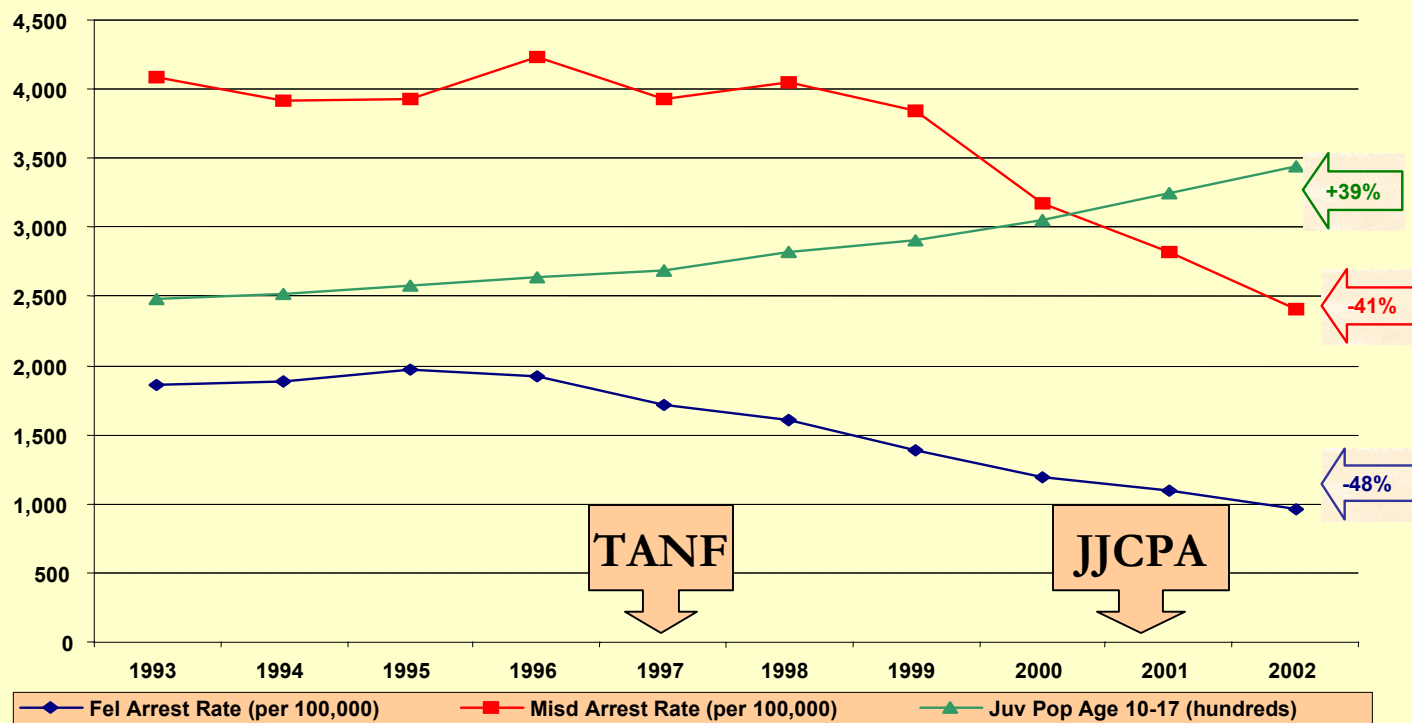


Investing in Probation Services Reduces Crime

Although the number of juveniles grew,  crime dropped. 

Juvenile Crime in Orange County

Felony and Misdemeanor Arrest Rates, Juvenile 10-17 Population
1993 - 2003



Source: California Department of Justice Prepared by Research Division, O.C. Probation Department

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Youth and Family Resource Centers

“The 8% Study”

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Probation
targets the at-
risk population.



Youth and
Family
Resource
Centers have
proven that
chronic
criminal
activity can be
reduced.

Team Approach

- ✓ Health Care Agency
- ✓ Department of Education
- ✓ Community-Based Organizations
- ✓ Juvenile and the Family



Probation Budget Reductions

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Fiscal Year 2002-2003: The Probation Department reduced its budget by \$4.7 million to meet the net county cost target and an additional \$544,533 as part of the county's Step 1 Strategic Financial Plan.

✓ Proposition 36 cases steadily grew

Fiscal Year 2003-2004: Probation implemented reductions totaling \$10.4 million affecting 57 related positions.

✓ 2 Youth and Family Resource Centers closed

✓ Supervision of adult offenders drastically reduced

✓ Proposition 36 cases continue to grow

Probation Budget Reductions

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Fiscal Year 2004-2005:

Probation's net county cost target is \$81 million.

Impact of proposed reductions in state funding and rising costs totals \$21.2 million.

Proposed Cuts Threaten to Erode Progress on Improving Public Safety

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Closure of 2 additional
Youth and Family
Resource Centers.

Closure of 188 juvenile
institutional beds.

Reduce services to
Criminal and Juvenile
Courts.

Discontinue Juvenile
Peer Court.

Reduce supervision
of juvenile and adult
offenders.



Probation Officer Reductions

Fiscal Year 2002-2003
359 Positions

Fiscal Year 2003-2004

317 Positions

Fiscal Year 2004-2005

274 Positions



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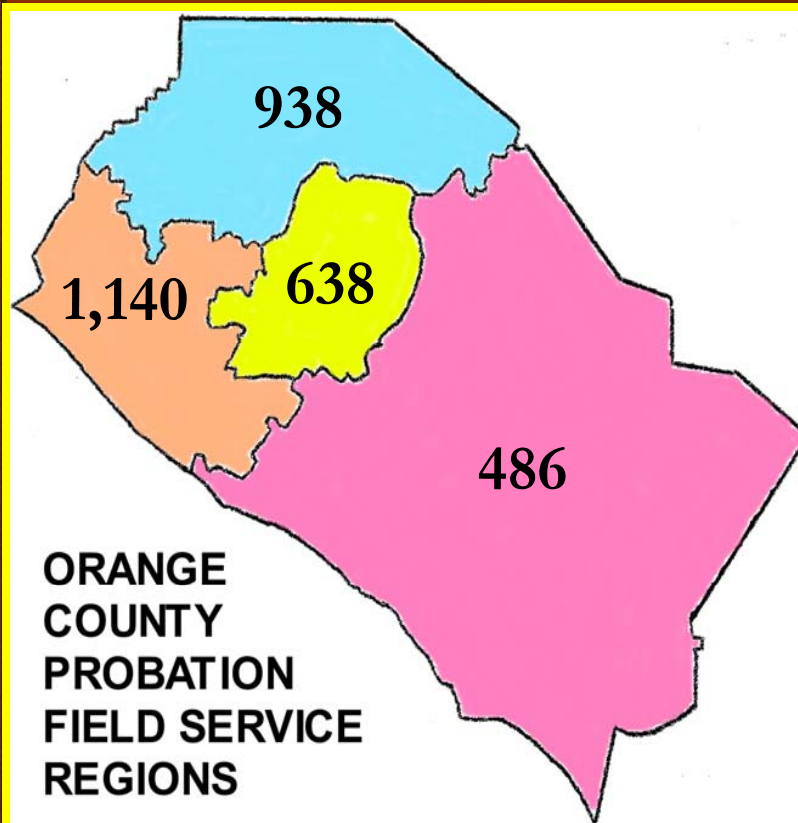
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Fiscal Year 2003 - 2004

Probation had to discontinue
supervision of 3,202 adult
probationers.



North County
938 Adults

Central County
638 Adults

West County
1,140 Adults

South County
486 Adults

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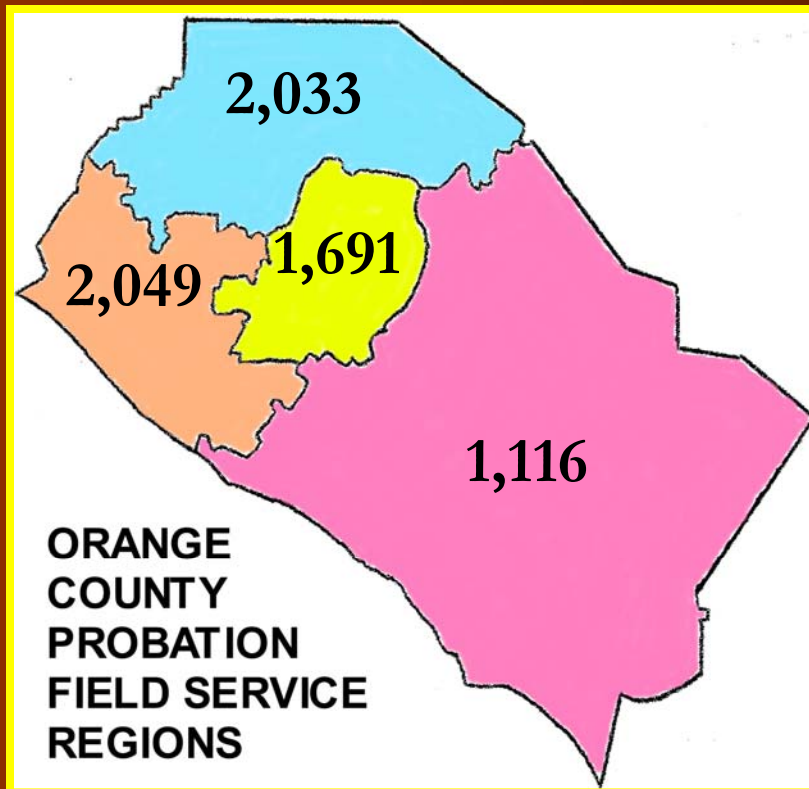
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Fiscal Year 2004 - 2005

Probation will be unable to supervise 6,889 adult and juvenile probationers.



North County
1,651 Adults
382 Juveniles

Central County
1,388 Adults
303 Juveniles

West County
1,846 Adults
203 Juveniles

South County
980 Adults
136 Juveniles

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Consequences of Budget Reduction

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- ◆ Fewer Probation Officers will remain to supervise probationers.
- ◆ More probationers will be assigned to non-supervised caseloads.
- ◆ Probation Officers may be deployed to high crime areas leaving portions of the County without probation services.
- ◆ Fewer probationers will be referred to community resources and monitored at their jobs, in their homes and in treatment programs.



Consequences of Budget Reduction

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- ◆ Fewer searches (average 22,909 per year) of probationers will result in:
 - Fewer firearms removed from the community (average 109 per year)
 - Fewer drugs taken off the street (average 74 lbs. per year)
 - Fewer violators will be arrested before re-offending (average 3,136 arrests per year)
- ◆ Probation Officers' knowledge of criminal associates in the community will diminish and no longer support collaborative efforts with local law enforcement.



Rational Assumptions

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◆ Fewer probationers will successfully complete probation and maintain law-abiding behavior.

◆ Numbers of crime victims will increase and ability to collect restitution will decrease.



Hidden Costs

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◆ When probationers are not supervised and new crimes are committed, the entire judicial system incurs costs:

- A new police report
- District Attorney court case
- Public Defender defense case
- More judicial hearings
- More jail custody time

◆ When juvenile institutions are overcrowded, local sentencing options diminish:

- Overcrowded facilities result in greater overtime expenditures (Title 15)
- More juveniles will be released from custody early
- More juveniles will be sent to the California Youth Authority (local custody costs \$32,000 per year; CYA custody costs \$80,000 - \$125,000 per year)



Proposition 36

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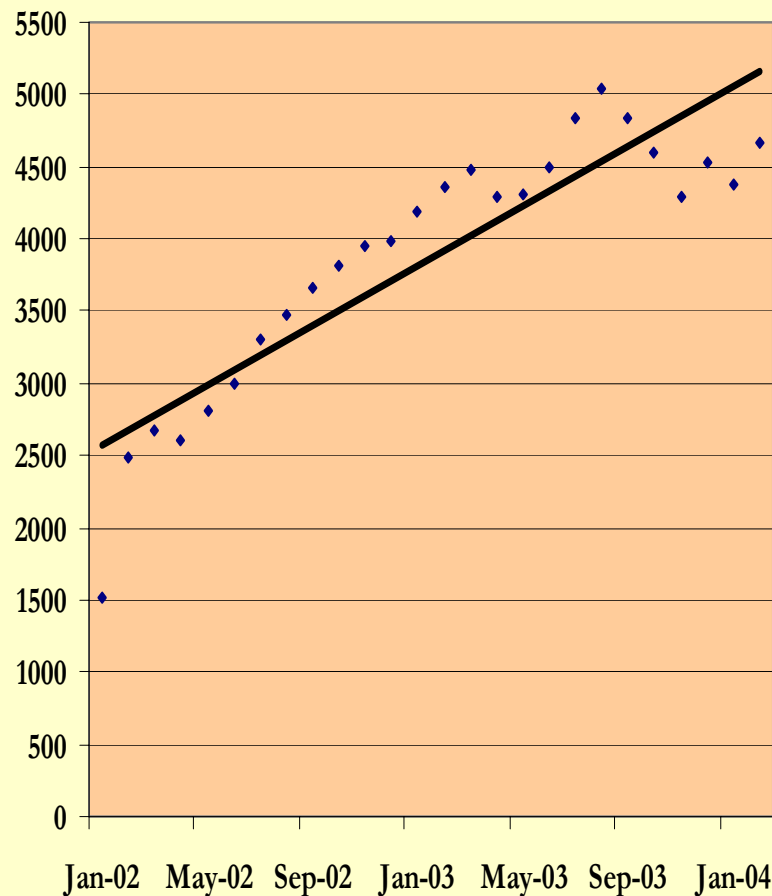
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Number of Proposition 36
Probationers Supervised



◆ Trend shows number of cases continue to increase.

◆ Proposition 36 legally mandates probation casework and preparation of court-ordered reports.

Future Budget Reductions

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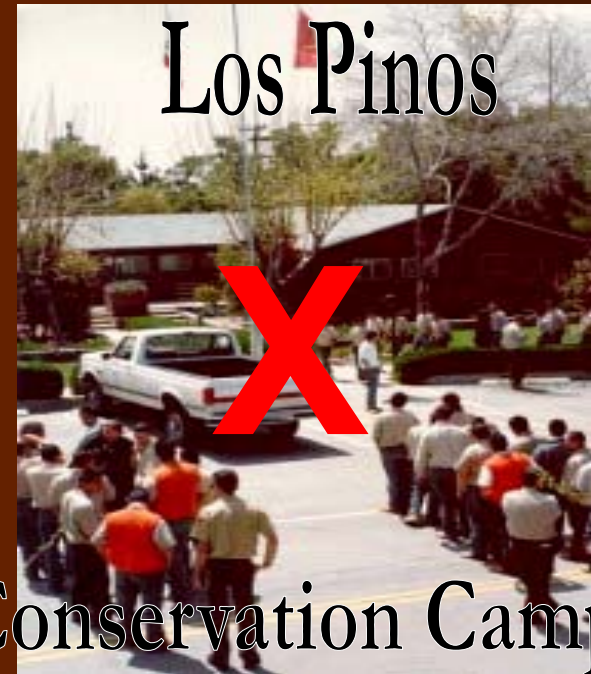
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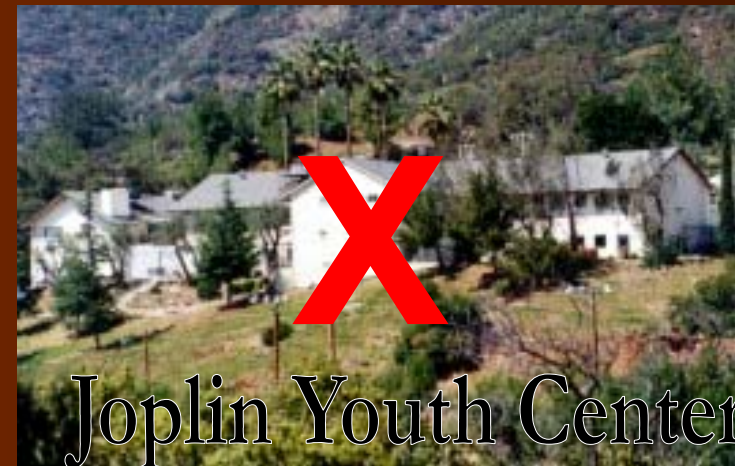


Fiscal Year 2005 - 2006
Projected Budget
Reductions Require:

Closure of Los Pinos
Conservation Camp



Closure of Joplin
Youth Center



SUMMARY

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Conclusion

- ◆ Probation has implemented successful crime prevention programs.
- ◆ Proposed budget cuts and increasing costs will reduce Probation's ability to provide public protection and prevent crime.

Programs Impacted:

2 additional Youth and Family Resource Centers will close.

188 juvenile institutional beds will close.

Services to Criminal and Juvenile Courts will be reduced.

Juvenile Peer Court will discontinue.

Supervision of juvenile and adult offenders will be reduced.

